



EDDIE A. PEREZ
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MAYOR'S FAMILY FAIR

NEWS AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY FOR SATURDAY, MAY 10TH

Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez and the Office for Young Children will once again transform City Hall into a one-day festival for children and families! The Fair will promote the public's awareness of Hartford's Early Childhood Blueprint and the work of the Mayor's Office for Young Children. The third annual Early Childhood Family Fair will be held on the grounds of City Hall and the main branch of the Hartford Public Library. The event is scheduled for **Saturday, May 10, 2008 from 12:00 noon until 5:00**. This year's theme will be "Hartford Loves Science!"

This event will offer Hartford families with young children the opportunity to visit City Hall and the new Children's Library as well as participate in fun, informative and hands-on activities.

Mayor Perez says, "I am especially pleased that this venue will provide families exposure to informative and engaging resources. The goal is for families to continue to utilize these programs on a regular basis so that our youngest residents have a healthy and seamless transition through their early school years."

The purpose of the event is also to enhance the public's understanding of the effectiveness of quality early learning experiences, the importance of early kindergarten registration and of the myriad of early childhood and family support options available to families with young children between the ages of birth to eight years. Some of the family activities will include:

- Science activities and presentations
- Family entertainment such as jugglers, face-paintings, stilt walkers, story-tellers, clowns, musical performances etc,
- A food court highlighting many of Hartford restaurants,
- Hands-on early learning activities for young children and parents such as arts & crafts activities or story-telling opportunities,
- Information booths representing Hartford early childhood & family support programs,
- Interactive workshops offered by Hartford family support programs to engage interested families.

Mayor Perez says, "On behalf of Jose Colon-Rivas and his Office for Young Children staff, we hope to see you at the Family Fair on Saturday!"